

With respect to the Examiner's division, Applicants respectfully submit that:

Claims 1-8, 11, 15, 17, 24-33, 35-42, 45, and 52-61 are generic;

Claims 9 and 34 are generic with respect to Species II, III, and IV;

Claims 14 and 44 are generic with respect to Species I, II, and III;

Claims 20, 22, 23, and 43 are generic with respect to Species I, II, and IV;

Claim 46 is directed to Species I;

Claims 47 and 48 are directed to Species II;

Claims 19 and 49 are directed to Species III; and

Claim 50 is directed to Species IV.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Election requirement. In light of the traversal, Applicants provisionally elect Species I (claims 1-8, 11, 14, 15, 17, 20, 22-33, 35-42, 44-46, and 52-61).

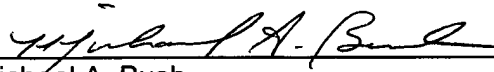
III. Applicants Traverse the Election Requirement

Applicants note that the Examiner has not articulated any rationale supporting the contention that the disclosed embodiments of the claimed invention are either independent or distinct. MPEP §803 sets forth the requisite criteria for properly restricting the claims of an application. MPEP §803 specifically requires that: (A) the inventions must be independent (see MPEP §802.01, §806.04, §808.01) or distinct as claimed (see MPEP §806.05-806.05(i)); and (B) that there must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required (see MPEP §803.02, §806.04(a)- §806.04(i), §808.01(a) and §808.02).

Applicants respectfully traverse the Election Requirement since the Examiner has provided no basis to assert that FIGS. 9A-9D represent independent or distinct species. Further, the Examiner has not set forth how/why there would be a serious burden if restriction is not required.

Respectfully submitted,
STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: 
Michael A. Bush
Registration No. 48,893

1201 New York Ave, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500 Facsimile: (202) 434-1501